

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 364

By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to commemorate “Primary Immunodeficiency Awareness Month” in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, primary immunodeficiency diseases are disorders in which part of the body’s immune system is missing or does not function properly; and

WHEREAS, these disorders are caused by intrinsic or genetic defects in the immune system, many of which require chronic replacement therapy consisting of immune globulin administration, gamma interferon, antibiotic therapy, bone marrow/stem cell transplantation, or gene therapy to protect individuals from frequent life-threatening infections and debilitating illnesses; and

WHEREAS, there is a 12.4-year delay from the onset of symptoms to diagnosis resulting in permanent functional impairments; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization recognizes more than 200 primary immunodeficiency diseases that may affect as many as 250,000 people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, those who suffer from primary immunodeficiency diseases and their families can rely on the Immune Deficiency Foundation to provide advocacy, education, and research to improve the diagnosis and treatment of primary immunodeficiency disease; and

WHEREAS, the education of healthcare professionals is necessary to reduce delays in diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, widespread public support is needed to understand primary immune deficiency diseases and find cures, and provide access to all available life-saving therapies; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the Immune Deficiency Foundation as they commemorate April 2015 as "Primary Immunodeficiency Awareness Month" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.